





COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year ended 31st December, 1940

JOHN INNES, M.D., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.

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**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of  
the County Borough of Rochdale.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Ninth Annual Report on the Health Conditions of the Borough, and the Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

In accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health, this Report has been much curtailed. Arrangements have, however, been made for the preservation of the usual statistics, other than in the Report, so that the annual records may be available after the war in a continuous and complete form.

The first portion of the Report is statistical in character. The birth-rate shows an increase as compared with last year, which was the lowest ever recorded in Rochdale, and is, in addition, just above the average for the last ten years. The death-rate shows a very definite increase both as compared with last year and the average for the last ten years. The chief cause of this increase was deaths due to bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, and the incidence was mainly concentrated in the first three months of the year.

The infantile mortality rate at 89 per thousand births showed a very marked and regrettable increase as compared with the rate of 55 in 1939. The chief cause of death in this group was premature birth which accounted for 41 out of 96 deaths, which gave the above mentioned death-rate.

Two deaths were recorded in the maternal mortality group as compared with one in 1939 and four in 1938.

Infectious diseases showed a definite increase above the average. This increase was mainly due to measles with 1,047 cases notified as compared with 79 the previous year, whooping-cough with 166 compared with 35 and chicken-pox 229 as compared with 76. Measles was specially prevalent in February, June, July and August, whooping-cough and chicken-pox in the latter half of the year.

During the year under review the work necessary in connection with that portion of the Air Raid Precautions Scheme which devolves upon the Health Department gradually settled down into a routine and took the place of any new work of a Public Health nature.

A considerable amount of extra work was entailed in respect of the maintenance of the Corporation Hospitals. This was caused by the increased difficulties of obtaining supplies and provisions and of maintaining a full working staff.

In spite of these increased difficulties, normal working of all the Public Health Services was maintained during the year, with the exception already noted, that all new schemes in hand at the outbreak of war were abandoned and no fresh schemes were embarked upon thereafter.

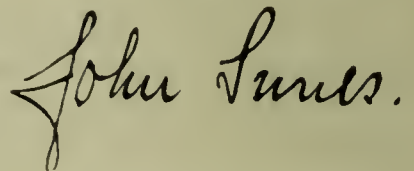
I have again pleasure in recording my appreciation of the helpful attitude of the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee towards myself and the members of my Staff. I have also to acknowledge the continued good services of the medical, nursing and clerical staff of this Department.

Particular mention must again be made of the assistance of Mr. Schofield, Lay Administrative Officer, and Mr. Duncan, Chief Sanitary Inspector, in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Lums". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "John Lums".

Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
26th September, 1941.



# STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1940.

*Lancet*

Area (in acres) ... ..	9,553
Registrar-General's Estimate of Civilian Population, mid-year 1940	86,670 X
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) ... ..	25,487 X
Estimated sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£2,150
Rateable Value, ... ..	£566,276

	Total	M.	F.
<b>Live Births.</b> —Legitimate	1,018 ...	542 ...	476
Illegitimate	54 ...	31 ...	23
	<u>1,072</u>	<u>573</u>	<u>499</u>

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civil population 12.4

**Still-births 52**—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 46

	Total	M.	F.
<b>Deaths</b> ... ..	1575 ...	789 ...	786

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated civil population 18.2

## Deaths from Maternal Causes 2.

Puerperal Sepsis — } Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 1.78  
Other Maternal Causes 2 }

## Death-rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 89  
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... .. 87  
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... .. 130

	No. of Deaths		Rate per 1,000 of population	
	1940	1939	1940	1939
Measles .. ..	3	—	0.03	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	1	3	0.01	0.03
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. ..	18	3	0.21	0.03
Cancer .. ..	192	188	2.20	2.09

### Poor Law Relief.

The following information as to the number of persons receiving Relief at the end of December 31st, 1940, and the amount of cash payments during the year, compared with the corresponding figures for 1939, has been kindly supplied by the Public Assistance Officer :—

	1940 Week ending 28-12-40.	1939 Week ending 30-12-39.
No. of Persons in receipt of Institutional Relief (excluding cases in Mental Hospitals) ... ..	361	338
No. of Persons relieved (excluding non-resident persons and vagrants) ...	869	1,745
Amount of Out-Relief granted ...	£496 15s. 0d.	£782 7s. 2d.

### National Health Insurance.

The Clerk to the Insurance Committee has kindly supplied the following information as to the number of insured persons in the Borough and the cost of medicines supplied to the insured population :—

	Year ended Dec. 31st,	
	1940	1939
(1) Total number of Insured Persons in the borough on October 1st ... ..	51,345	52,195
(2) Number of Prescriptions made up for the Insured Population ... ..	244,292	243,372
(3) Annual Cost of Drugs, Medicines and Appliances for Insured Population ...	£10,324	£9,427

### Unemployment.

Figures relating to unemployment in Rochdale are unfortunately not available for publication during the war period.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Area.

The area of the Borough is 9,553 acres.

### Population.

The Census Returns of April, 1931, gave the population as 90,278, and in June, 1938, the Registrar General's estimate was 91,290.

The reduced figure of 86,670 is given by the Registrar General as an estimate of the civilian population to be used for statistical purposes for the year 1940. This is the second special war time estimate of the civilian population.

### Live Births.

1,072 live births (males 573, females 499) were registered as compared with 997 in the year 1939, and an average of 1,112 for the ten years 1930-1939.

Illegitimate births numbered 54, as against 58 the previous year.



### Still Births.

52 registered as compared with 50 in 1939, and 59 in the year 1938.

The **Live Birth-rate** was equal to 12.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against 11.0 per 1,000 the previous year, which was the lowest birth-rate on record for this borough. The average birth-rate for the ten years 1930-39 was 12.1 per 1,000.

### Deaths.

The deaths registered show a large increase with 1,575 (males 789, females 786) as against 1,322 in the year 1939.

The death-rate from all causes was 18.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 14.7 the previous year, and an average of 14.5 during the ten years 1930-39.

This increase in the death-rate was mainly due to bronchitis and other respiratory affections amongst persons of mature age. During the months of February and March the death-rate from these causes was over 30 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The chief causes of death are given below in comparison with the previous year. These figures are supplied by the Registrar General and it is apparent that some change in classification has taken place as between "Heart Disease" and "Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.," as compared with the previous year.

						Year 1940	Year 1939
						<hr/>	<hr/>
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	52	23
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	63	47
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	192	188
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	180	42
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	276	409
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	118	145
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	219	59
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	51	37
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	43	36
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Pre-mature Birth, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	62	38
TOTAL						<hr/>	<hr/>
						1,256	1,024
Percentage of total deaths registered during							
the year	...	...	...	...	...	80	77.4

Table II., Appendix, shows the age and sex distribution and causes of deaths in 1940, while Table I. gives comparative mortality rates and birth-rates during the past ten years.

### Infant Mortality.

The year 1939, with 55 infant deaths, had the lowest number on record. The year under review shows an increase to 96 deaths, which is the highest figure of infant deaths registered since the year 1929, with 100. This year's figure gives a mortality rate of 89 per 1,000 births registered, compared with 55 per 1,000 last year, and an average of 70 during the ten years 1930-39.

This high rate has only been exceeded twice in the last twenty years, namely in 1922 and 1925. The chief causes of infant deaths responsible for this increase were Diarrhoea and Enteritis with 16 deaths as compared with 3 in 1939, and Prematurity with 41 deaths as compared with 18.

Investigations have failed to show any definite cause for this marked increase in premature births, which cause must lie largely in the ante-natal period. These investigations are being continued.

### Comparative Mortality and Birth Rates.

	Death-rate All Causes per 1,000 of population	Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births
<b>ROCHDALE</b> ...	18.2	12.4	89
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns ...	15.8	16.0	61
148 Smaller Towns (Population 25,000 to 50,000) ... ..	12.8	15.7	54
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	14.3	14.6	55

These provisional figures are corrected only for transfers and institutions and make no allowance for variations in the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas.

### Zymotic Diseases.

The principal zymotic diseases (excluding influenza) caused 27 deaths as compared with 10 deaths the previous year, as shown below :—

						Year 1940	Year 1939
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	18	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	...	...	...	...	...	27	10

### Respiratory Diseases.

This group of diseases again showed an increase from 106 to 284, chiefly due to deaths from bronchitis.

Pneumonia caused 51 deaths, bronchitis 219 and other respiratory affections 14.

### Cancer.

The arrangement with the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, for the admission and treatment of selected cases of cancer has been continued during the year.

Deaths classified to this cause and shown in age groups below numbered 192 (males 88, females 104) as against 188 the previous year :—

	Total Deaths	under 15 yrs.	15-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65 yrs. and over
Year 1940	192	1	10	76	105
„ 1939	188	—	13	93	82

The death-rate was 2.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against 2.1 per 1,000 in 1939.

No special investigations have been undertaken during the year in connection with the incidence or causation of this disease.

## General Provision of Health Services

### Nursing in the Home.

The arrangement with the District Nursing Association for the home nursing of selected cases of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, measles and ophthalmia has been continued and during the year much valuable public health work has been done by the staff of that Association.

276 cases were visited at regular intervals and in the aggregate a total of 4,633 visits were paid to the homes of the patients.

### Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

There has been no alteration in the scheme for dealing with medical out-relief during the year.

### Institutional Provision for Care of Mental Defectives.

These cases are accommodated at the Birch Hill Institution where 206 beds are provided for this type of case.

### Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance service in respect of removals to the Corporation Hospitals is now controlled by the Health Committee.

## Clinic and Treatment Centres.

Arrangements as in 1939.

There are five Centres in connection with maternity and child welfare maintained by the Local Authority, with fourteen sessions each week ; also one centre each in connection with (a) Venereal Diseases and Tuberculosis, and (b) School Medical Inspection.

The work in connection with the Corporation clinics is set out in detail in the respective sections of this report.

## Laboratory Facilities.

### (a) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

There has been no alteration in these arrangements. At the Broadfield Laboratory, 4,100 examinations were carried out on behalf of this Authority as compared with 4,268 the previous year and 6,440 in the year 1938.

Chemical analysis of water and the examination of milk for tuberculosis and bacterial count, etc., were also carried out at this Laboratory.

Milk—for tuberculosis	...	...	...	152
for bacterial count and B.Coli	...	...	...	18
for meth. blue reductions test	...	...	...	18
Water	...	...	...	8

### (b) PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Specimens from persons suspected to be suffering from venereal diseases examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, numbered 594, as against 819 the previous year. In addition, 151 specimens were examined by the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centre.

### (c) MILK AND FOODSTUFFS.

The Borough Analyst has examined 93 samples under the Food and Drugs Acts, as against 185 in 1939.

## Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are two dwelling-houses registered as Maternity Homes and two as Nursing Homes for medical and surgical cases :—

59, Boundary Street—one patient	} Maternity.
62, King Street East—one patient	
183, Drake Street—Eight patients—Medical and Surgical.	
The Law Nursing Home, Manchester Road—34 patients—Medical.	

No adverse reports have been received regarding the conduct of these Nursing Homes.

In a compact area such as Rochdale, there is no possibility of an un-registered Nursing Home being in existence without the knowledge of the Public Health Department.



## Hospitals.

The public and voluntary hospitals services in the district provide 1,052 beds for sick, as shown below :—

### PUBLIC HOSPITALS—

Birch Hill Hospital—General Medical and Surgical ...	417 beds
do. Maternity ... ..	58 „
Birch Hill Institution—Epilepsy, Mentally Infirm, etc.	206 „
Marland Hospital—Infectious Diseases... ..	120 „
Springfield Sanatorium—Pulmonary Tuberculosis (females) ... ..	36 „
Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital—Pulmonary Tuberculosis (males) ... ..	55 „

### VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS—

Rochdale Infirmary—General (chiefly surgical) ...	110 „
The Memorial Home—Orthopædic ... ..	50 „

In addition to this number arrangements have been continued during the year to send selected cases of tuberculosis to various sanatoria, i.e., Stannington, near Morpeth ; Crossley Sanatorium, Delamere ; and The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital, Oswestry.

Three beds are also retained at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital for cases of smallpox which may occur within the Borough.

## The General Hospital, Birch Hill.

This hospital has accommodation for 475 patients, including 417 beds for general medical and surgical and 58 for maternity cases, and serves the Rochdale County Borough and the adjoining County districts with a total estimated population of over 123,000.

The year 1940 registers 3,829 patients admitted (excluding infants born in hospital) an increase of 625 on the previous year and the highest figure recorded for any year since the hospital was taken over by the Corporation in April, 1930. The admissions for the first complete year of 1931, following transfer from the Poor Law Guardians were 2,287.

This hospital is included in the Government's Emergency Hospital Scheme and is available if and when required for accommodating casualties arising during the present war.

The following statistical summary provides an indication of the ever-increasing volume of work done at Birch Hill Hospital.

Total number of admissions (including infants born in hospital) ... ..	4558	...	3893
Number of women confined in hospital... ..	760	...	717
Number of live births ... ..	729	...	689
Number of still-births ... ..	49	...	38
Number of deaths amongst the newly-born (i.e., under 4 weeks of age) ... ..	43	...	25
Total number of deaths amongst children under one year	85	...	52
Number of maternal deaths among women confined in hospital ... ..	4	...	3
Total number of deaths ... ..	673	...	498
Total number of discharges (including infants born in hospital) ... ..	3799	...	3485
Duration of stay of patients—			
(a) Four weeks or less ... ..	3351	...	3073
(b) Exceeding four weeks but under thirteen weeks	845	...	725
(c) Exceeding thirteen weeks ... ..	276	...	185
Number of beds occupied, average during the year 1940 (highest 425 on 23/2/40, lowest 301 on 1/1/40)	364	...	342
Number of surgical operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations) ... ..	930	...	761
Number of abdominal sections ... ..	438	...	350
Number of pathological and microscopical examinations	2377	...	1876

The " Five Year Plan " for the development of the Hospital services at Birch Hill Hospital is suspended on account of the war.

### Dental Work.

I am indebted to Mr. H. Senior Ashworth, Dental Surgeon, at the General Hospital, for the following statement of dental work carried out at the Hospital, Cottage Homes and the adjoining Public Assistance Institution during the year :

Visits to Birch Hill Hospital... ..	102
Inspections at Cottage Homes ... ..	2
Extractions ... ..	616
Fillings ... ..	162
Scalings and Gum Treatment ... ..	50

" I have attended the Cottage Homes for Inspections and am pleased to report that the general condition of the children's teeth is good.

" The inmates of the Male and Female Mental Wards have been inspected and received the required treatment.

" Orthodontic Appliances have been supplied and dentures repaired for certain patients.

" Eighteen General Anæsthetics (other than Nitrous Oxide) for multiple extractions have been administered by the medical officers.



### **Blood Transfusion Service.**

The panel of donors serving this Hospital and the Rochdale Infirmary totals 114, and during the year 17 donors have given service at the request of the medical staff, for which the Health Committee are grateful.

### **Joint Consultative Committee.**

The Joint Committee consisting of representatives of the Health Committee and of the Rochdale Infirmary, appointed for the purpose of co-ordinating the hospital services, have continued their regular meetings, and many matters of mutual interest affecting general hospital administration have been discussed.

### **Hospital Recommends.**

The Corporation are able to supply a limited number of "Recommends" for admission to the following institutions:—

Manchester Royal Eye Hospital ;  
 Manchester Royal Infirmary ;  
 Rochdale Infirmary ;  
 Royal Manchester Children's Hospital ;  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester ;  
 Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton.

Applications for these "Recommends" should be made to the Public Health Offices and should be accompanied by a medical certificate or written request from the hospital concerned.

### **Marland Hospital and Springfield Sanatorium.**

The work at these institutions is referred to in a later part of this report.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare**

### **Notification of Births Act, 1907.**

There were 1,089 births notified as belonging to Rochdale—1,071 by midwives and 18 by doctors and parents. These figures include 629 births occurring at Birch Hill Maternity Home and classified to Rochdale.

### **Health Visitors.**

The six Health Visitors have made 14,898 visits to homes where there are infants and young children, and 426 visits to expectant mothers.

Each Health Visitor is also in regular attendance at the infant welfare centres, ante-natal clinics and nursery schools.

### **Infant Welfare Centres.**

The five centres in different parts of the town have continued with their nine weekly sessions.

The further decline in the attendances at the child welfare centres of mothers and children as shown in the following summary may be generally attributed to the upset of war conditions. The introduction of the National Milk Scheme has no doubt encouraged mothers to regard the clinic as more of a

centre for consultation and advice with consequent attendance at longer intervals than formerly. It will be noted that the actual number of children attending for the first time during the year shows a definite increase.

Centre	New Cases admitted during 1940	Total Attendances of Children			Average Attendance per Clinic Session	No. of Medical examinations by M.O.
		under 1 yr.	1—2 yrs.	2—5 yrs.		
(a) Baillie Street * (Wardleworth)	187	2,390	769	806	40 (46)	1,224
(b)*St. Luke's ...	220	3,030	956	992	51 (62)	1,748
(c)*St. Clement's ...	143	2,857	1,377	1,323	55 (69)	1,627
(d) Baillie Street * (Castleton) ...	275	3,360	1,003	1,327	56 (35)	1,762
(e) Castleton ...	104	1,938	1,110	762	77 (82)	941
(f) Norden ...	58	603	348	453	28 (39)	492
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>14,178</b>	<b>5,563</b>	<b>5,663</b>	—	<b>7,794</b>
<b>Corresponding Figures 1939 ...</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>16,840</b>	<b>7,171</b>	<b>4,867</b>	—	<b>8,143</b>

\* Two Clinic Sessions per week.

The number of children who attended for the first time and who at the date of their first visit were under one year of age was 813 or 74 per cent. of the notified live births, as against 61 per cent. in 1939.

Medical records of children attending these clinics are subsequently transferred to the School Medical Services Clinic.

The members of the Ladies' Executive Committee and co-opted voluntary helpers have continued to give their time and assistance at the various clinics and in other ways, for which service the Health Committee have recorded their appreciation and thanks.

### National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

We are indebted to the local branch of this society and to their Inspector for their ready and willing co-operation with this department in dealing with cases of neglect, uncleanness and similar conditions coming within the purview of the Medical Officer and Health Visitors throughout the year.

### Provision of Milk and Food Preparations.

The scheme for the distribution of milk and food preparations free to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers, and to children under five years of age was continued until July 21st, 1940, when the Government scheme for the distribution of milk to mothers and young children came into operation. Up to that date approximately £740 was expended on 334 necessitous families who shared, without payment, in the supply of 1,868 gallons of fresh milk, 62½ cwt. of dried milk food and 4,051 packets of food preparation, such as Virol,

etc. The Government scheme, although administered by the Local Food Control Committee with the Medical Officer of Health acting as Milk Officer, is linked up and co-ordinated as far as possible, with the work of the various child welfare clinics.

### Mid-day Meals.

There were 188 mid-day meals supplied free to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers, as compared with 244 meals during 1939.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

This scheme as applied to children under five years of age has been continued, and 261 children of that age group have been immunised during the year at Child Welfare Clinics as compared with only 38 in 1939.

The immunisation of children at the Elementary Schools is reported on in the section of this Report dealing with School Medical Services.

### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

There are now six clinic sessions each week—four ante-natal clinics at Baillie Street Council School and one at Birch Hill Maternity Home, while one post-natal clinic is held at Baillie Street School.

The number of women attending these clinics is set out in the following summary.

	Rochdale County Borough		County Districts		Total	
	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939
<b>(1) ANTE-NATAL CLINICS :</b>						
(Birch Hill and Baillie Street)						
(a) No. of Expectant Mothers attending (New Cases) ...	719	697	124	110	843	807
(b) No. of attendances (Old and New Cases) ... ..	3,541	4,072	518	522	4,059	4,594
(c) Average attendances per clinic session ... ..	22.7	22.2	3.3	2.85	26.0	25.1
<b>(2) POST-NATAL CLINIC :</b>						
(Baillie Street) :						
(a) No. of Mothers attending (New Cases) ... ..	175	181	42	46	217	227
(b) No. of attendances (Old and New Cases) ... ..	248	259	56	71	304	330
(c) Average attendance per clinic session ... ..	5.2	5.9	1.2	1.6	6.3	7.5



The 719 patients who attended for the first time at the Ante-natal Clinics during the year represent 66 per cent. of the total notified live-births and still-births in this Borough as compared with 77 per cent. in the previous year. In following up these patients the Health Visitors paid over 426 home visits.

### **X-Ray Facilities.**

The X-Ray facilities at Birch Hill Hospital are available when the Medical Officer desires further information as regards any patient attending the Ante-Natal Clinic.

### **Consultant Services.**

Dr. E. A. Gerrard, of Manchester, continues to act as Consultant Obstetrician to this Authority, and in addition Dr. Evans, who acts as Senior Assistant Resident Medical Officer at Birch Hill Hospital, and is in clinical charge of the maternity services, is also available for consultation when required.

### **Emergency Maternity Unit.**

This Unit is available at short notice night and day for service within the Borough or adjoining County Districts (Tel. No. 8294, Birch Hill Hospital). Only on three occasions has this service been called on during the year.

### **Orthopædic Clinic.**

Children attending the Child Welfare Clinic and requiring expert opinion or treatment are referred to the Smith Street Clinic carried on by the Crippled Children's Union. Dr. Bateman's services in this connection are gratefully acknowledged.

### **Maternity Outfits.**

Seven Outfits were loaned for confinements at home during the year. Sterilised accouchement outfits may be obtained at the Child Welfare Centres at cost price or free in necessitous cases.

### **Dental Services.**

The joint arrangement with the School Dental Services has been continued. Dental treatment in the nature of extractions and small fillings necessary for clearing septic conditions was given to 59 mothers and 49 children. In addition 6 necessitous and expectant mothers were supplied with part or full dentures through a dentist of their own choice.

### **Medical Assistance.**

Midwives practising on the District requested the services of a medical practitioner in 161 maternity cases and in 30 cases of newly born children. The corresponding figures last year were 193 and 32 respectively.

In 68 cases the medical fee was paid in whole or part by the Local Authority, amounting in the aggregate to £98 as against £158 the previous year.

### Midwifery Fees.

The Local Authority pay the midwifery fee in cases where the family circumstances are poor and where there is no maternity benefit available. During the year the fee was paid or allowed in whole or part in 58 cases.

### Maternity Home.

There were 879 maternity cases admitted from Rochdale and the surrounding districts to Birch Hill Maternity Home, as against 825 in 1939 and 925 in 1938. The actual number of women confined was 760, of which 617 were Rochdale, 123 Lancashire County Area, and 20 from other districts.

### Midwives.

13 midwives gave notice of intention to practice in this Borough ; 8 of these are engaged as Municipal Midwives, while the remaining 5 are engaged in private practice. Comparative figures of the year's district midwifery work by Municipal Midwives are given below :—

			Year 1940	Year 1939
Cases attended—as Midwife	...	...	360	388
as Maternity Nurse	...	...	39	54
Visits during lying-in period—as Midwife	...	...	5,400	5,969
—as Maternity Nurse			744	870
Ante-Natal (Home Visits)—	...	...	2,044	2,526
do.	No. of patients			
	concerned	...	1,083	1,329
Miscellaneous Visits—Ante-Natal, etc.	...	...	499	436

The 5 midwives in private practice attended 53 cases of midwifery during the past year.

### Puerperal Pyrexia.

Seven cases of puerperal pyrexia were reported, five of which were removed to Marland Hospital for treatment. During the previous year only two cases were reported.

### Maternal Mortality.

Only two deaths were registered and classified by the Registrar General as due to puerperal causes, as compared with one the previous year and four in the year 1938. Calculated per 1,000 total births (live and still-births) the mortality rate was 1.78 as against 0.95 per 1,000 in 1939.

This compares favourably with the following figures of maternal mortality in other towns.

TOWNS	MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 Live and Still Births		
	1940	1939	Average 5 years 1934-38
ROCHDALE ... ..	1.78	0.95	4.08
Average 12 neighbouring manufacturing towns ...	4.27	4.26	4.81
Administrative County of Lancaster ... ..	3.40	3.76	4.69
England and Wales ...	2.16	2.82	3.62

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Seven cases reported as against four cases the previous year and six cases in 1938. All the cases in 1940 made a good recovery with vision unimpaired.

### **Child Life Protections.**

On the 31st December, 1940, there were 17 persons registered as receiving children for reward. The number of children concerned was 20.

## **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

I am indebted to the Chief Officials of the various Departments of the Corporation for the information included in this Section of the Report.

### **Water Supply.**

There have been no new sources of public water supply or any important extensions of mains, nor has it been found necessary to take action in respect of any special form of contamination. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Bacteriological examinations of samples of water taken from each of the reservoirs and from consumers' taps supplied from these reservoirs are made at least at quarterly intervals.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

An extension scheme at the Roch Mills Sewage Disposal Works is in course of construction. Structural work for the Activated Sludge Plant is nearing completion; other units incorporated in the scheme are already working. When the scheme is finished, the works will be completely modernised with Detritus Chambers, Screen, Sedimentation Tanks, etc. Most of the machinery required has been purchased and much of it already delivered.



## Rivers and Streams.

The Lancashire Rivers Board are primarily responsible for the prevention of pollution of rivers and streams in this area and any cases which come to the notice of the Borough Surveyor are reported to the Board for attention.

## Public Cleansing.

The organisation of the work of refuse collection and disposal and of street cleansing remains substantially as described in previous reports.

As a contribution to the National War Effort the collection and recovery of salvage was intensified with satisfactory results.

In order to reduce the risk of stoppage of main traffic routes, 'bus routes and secondary roads and streets by severe snow-storms, thirteen snow ploughs were acquired and a large-scale ploughing scheme was devised.

A routine sweeping of public and school air raid shelters and the cleansing of chemical closets therein was inaugurated during the year.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

575 Preliminary or Informal Notices and 11 Statutory Notices for the abatement of nuisances and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings were served on owners and occupiers and resulted in the accomplishment of works given in the classified statement below.

The statement also includes works carried out at factories and food storage premises, etc., following the service of preliminary notices, but excludes work carried out under the Housing Acts.

NATURE OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH	Nos.
HOUSES—	
Verminous dwellings disinfested ... ..	23
Dirty Houses limewashed and/or cleansed ... ..	24
Repairs to roofs, floors, walls, eavstroughing, rainwater pipes, chimneys, and general repairs to brickwork or stonework (including dampness) and repair or renewal of house fittings...	624
YARDS, PASSAGES, ETC.—	
Repairs to surfaces, gates, walls, etc. ... ..	13
Offensive accumulations and stagnant water removed ... ..	44
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—	
Water-closet buildings repaired ... ..	15
Pail closets and water-closets cleansed ... ..	15
Water Closet fittings repaired ... ..	84
DRAINS—	
Main or branch drains repaired or cleared ... ..	69
GENERAL—	
Miscellaneous nuisances remedied ... ..	16

## DEFECTS AT PREMISES USED FOR THE PREPARATION OR STORAGE OF FOOD.

	Nos.
The use of dirty utensils, receptacles or fittings ... ..	2
Want of limewashing or cleansing of premises ... ..	112

## DEFECTS AT FACTORIES OR WORKPLACES.

	Nos.
Absence of, or, unsatisfactory condition of sanitary accommodation	12
Want of Limewashing ... ..	1

**Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.**

During the year 336 visits were made to premises regarding which complaints had been received under the above Act. One part-time rat-catcher is employed by the Department and the number of rats caught was approximately 430. The premises dealt with include slaughter-houses, dwelling-houses, shops and warehouses on which 1,220 rat-baits, 23 tins of rat-lime, and 65 tubes of poison were used.

**Shops Acts, 1912 and 1934.**

No notices under these Acts were issued during 1940.

**Offensive Trades.**

The number of premises at which these trades are carried on in the Borough is as follows :—

Tripe boiling ... ..	1
Gut scraping ... ..	1
Fellmongering ... ..	1
Knacker's yard (bone boiling) ... ..	1
Rag and Bone Dealers ... ..	8

These premises have been visited regularly during the year.

**Closet Accommodation.**

The approximate accommodation in the Borough at the end of December, 1940, was as follows :—

Fresh-water Carriage System ... ..	25,633
Pail Closets ... ..	1,609
Waste-water Closets ... ..	1,725
Privy Middens ... ..	40

The following shows the progress of the work of conversion of pail to water closets and also details of accommodation in December, 1940 :—

**TABLE I.**  
**PROGRESS OF CONVERSION WORK FROM COMMENCEMENT.**

Period					Conversions	Additional Closets Installed	Total
1911—1920	...	...	...	...	2713	209	2922
1921—1930	...	...	...	...	7925	1360	9285
1931—1939	...	...	...	...	1473	390	1863
1940	...	...	...	...	17	3	20
Totals ...					12128	1962	14090

No pail closets have been abolished during 1940.

**TABLE II.**  
**PAIL CLOSET ACCOMMODATION REMAINING DECEMBER 31st, 1940.**

Class	Total	No sewer avail-able	Sewer unsuit-able	Scheduled in "Five Year Plan"	Remaining to be dealt with
Dwellings—Joint ...	629	148	22	437	22
Separate...	473	171	95	143	64
Churches, etc. ...	69	57	2	—	10
Factories, Shops, etc.	318	132	117	—	69
Clubs ... ..	59	53	—	—	6
Licensed Premises ...	5	5	—	—	—
Farms ... ..	56	54	—	2	—
TOTALS ... ..	1609	620	236	582	171

No. of premises concerned :—

Farms ... ..	56	Schools and Churches ...	17
Licensed premises ...	2	Clubs ... ..	22
Workshops ... ..	84		

**TABLE III.**  
**PROGRESS OF WASTE WATER CLOSET CONVERSION.**

Period				Converted	Additional	Total
To end of 1939	...	...	...	487	6	493
1940	...	...	...	54	2	56
TOTAL	...	...	...	541	8	549

One W.W.C. was abolished in 1938 and one in 1939.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### Retail Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses now on the register is 197. These have been regularly inspected and cleansing and limewashing have been carried out after intimation by the Inspectors in 126 cases.

A high standard of cleanliness has been maintained and it has not been found necessary to issue any statutory notices in this respect.

### Workshops.

450 inspections of workshops have been carried out during the year.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In accordance with the instructions of the Government the work of smoke abatement was discontinued in April, 1940. Prior to this date 15 observations had been taken and in one case a statutory notice was served on the firm concerned.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 10 of these premises registered comprising 62 rooms and providing accommodation for 644 male persons. During the year 3 licences, involving 2 lodging-houses, lapsed owing to the premises being vacated.

Regular visits of inspection are paid to these premises and it has been found that with few exceptions they are conducted in a satisfactory manner. Some of the premises are considered not to be in all respects in accordance with modern standards.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Dairies and Cowsheds.

The number of farms on the register at the end of 1940 was 103. These were visited regularly by the Dairy Inspector, and during the year the following improvements were made under notice from this Department :—

Shippons reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Dairies provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Middensteads provided	...	...	...	...	...	2

### Milkshops.

The number of shops retailing milk in bottles is 267, while the number retailing unbottled milk is 4. With the exception of two, these are registered dairies. All these premises have been regularly inspected during the year.

### Inspection of Premises used for the Preparation and Sale of Foodstuffs.

During the year 1,882 visits have been made to this type of premises.



### **Rochdale Corporation Act, 1937.**

During the year 2 premises were registered for the preparation and sale of ice-cream, 3 premises were registered for the preparation and sale of preserved foods including sausages, pressed or pickled meats, fried fish, etc. See page 20 for details of work done in connection with the above premises.

### **Meat and Food Supply.**

There has been regular inspection of meat and food offered for sale, and over 55 tons have been destroyed as unfit for human food.

### **MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.**

#### **Tuberculous Milk.**

During the year 151 samples of milk have been taken in the Rochdale streets for the purpose of detecting supplies of tuberculous milk. These samples represented the milk of about 2,400 cows, and were taken in batches monthly. Of the samples 92 were from Rochdale Borough Farmers, and 59 from County farmers delivering milk in the Borough. The number found to be positively tubercular was :—

From Rochdale Farmers	...	...	...	...	5	(5.43%)
From County Farmers	...	...	...	...	2	(3.39%)

In connection with the 7 positive samples the necessary steps in respect of the infected animals were taken by the Ministry of Agriculture under the revised arrangement which came into force on April 1st, 1938.

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## **PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

### **(A.) INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.**

The general incidence of the chief infectious diseases during the past year was above the average, due mainly to an outbreak of measles, when 1,047 cases were notified under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1940, which made the diseases compulsorily notifiable, along with Whooping Cough, as from February of that year. The disease was generally distributed throughout the borough and affected chiefly children of school age, rising to its maximum incidence during the months of June, July and August.

The notification of the various diseases totalled 1,943 as against 581 the previous year and an average of 858 during the five years 1935-1939. Comparative figures are given in the following summary :—

			1940		1939		1935-39
Scarlet Fever	...	...	218	...	132	...	154.8
Diphtheria	...	...	83	...	71	...	100.4
Tuberculosis	...	...	114	...	103	...	107.8
Pneumonia	...	...	26	...	40	...	47.8
Whooping Cough	...	...	166	...	35	...	56.2
Chicken-pox	...	...	229	...	76	...	111.6
Measles	...	...	1047	...	79	...	232.2
Other Diseases	...	...	60	...	45	...	47.6
			1943	...	581	...	858.4

### Marland Hospital.

There were 507 cases admitted to this Hospital which together with 41 in Hospital on the 31st December, 1939, make 548 cases treated during the year, as compared with 491 the previous year. The case mortality was 2.8 per cent. of the cases treated as against 2.5 per cent. the previous year.

A summary of the cases admitted to Hospital is given below :—

DISEASE		In Hospital on 31st December 1939	Admitted during the Year	Discharged	Died	Remain- ing in Hospital at end of Year 1940	Ages of Patients Admitted		
							Under 5 Years	5—15 Years	Above 15 years
Scarlet Fever	...	26	244	247	...	23	50	152	42
Diphtheria	...	13	140	132	7	14	29	76	35
Enteric Fever	...	...	7	6	1	...	1	...	6
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	25	19	4	2	5	6	14
Measles	...	1	25	26	...	...	6	8	11
Dysentery	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	14	14	...	...	...	1	13
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	11	10	1	...	...	...	11
Other Diseases	...	1	12	12	1	...	3	6	3
Chicken Pox	...	...	28	28	...	...	3	24	1
<b>Total</b>	...	41	507	495	14	39	98	273	136

### Antitoxin.

Diphtheria Antitoxin, Scarlatina, Meningococcal and Erysipelas Sera are distributed on behalf of the Department, from the Broadfield Pathological Laboratory to medical practitioners for use within the Borough. Outside Laboratory hours, supplies are available at Marland Hospital.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 376 children have been immunised as against 437 the previous year. The former number includes 261 immunisations at the Child Welfare Clinics, 62 at Hospitals, 25 at School Medical Clinics and 28 by private



practitioners. This makes a total of 3,876 children immunised since the scheme was inaugurated in 1934. Arrangements have been made for a new drive during 1941 to increase these numbers.

### (B) TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 114 cases of tuberculosis notified as against 103 the previous year and 116 in the year 1938, and an average of 107 during the five years, 1933-37.

Comparative figures are given below :—

Average 5 year periods	NOTIFICATIONS		
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Total
1913—17	184	108	292
1923—27	85	40	125
1933—37	81	26	107
1938	89	27	116
1939	81	22	103
1940	82	32	114

The 114 new cases notified, together with the number of deaths resulting from the disease, are arranged in the summary below :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 years	1	...	1	3	...	...	2	1
5—15 „	5	7	5	9	...	1	1	1
15—25 „	8	13	4	2	11	17	5	...
25—35 „	6	13	1	1				
35—45 „	8	2	2	...	15	5	2	...
45—55 „	9	2	1	2				
55—65 „	7	...	1	...				
65 years and over	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
TOTAL	45	37	15	17	27	24	10	2

### Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Three clinic sessions have been held weekly and the number of new cases examined as suspected tuberculosis was 346 as against 317 the previous year.

The result of the examinations showed 119, or 34.4 per cent., were suffering from some form of tuberculosis, chiefly tuberculosis of the respiratory system, as against 103, or 32 per cent., in 1939.

In addition 186 men were examined by the Medical Officer chiefly under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and Silicosis Scheme.

The work in connection with the Dispensary is shown in the summary below.

	1940	1939
Number of New Cases examined ... ..	346	317
Total Number of Attendances of Patients ... ..	2,405	2,357
Average Attendance per Clinic (Year 1940—Highest 32		
Lowest 4) ... ..	16	15
Number of Contacts examined ... ..	113	107
Dressings and Injections carried out during the year ...	600	476
Personal and Other Consultations by Tuberculosis		
Officer ... ..	748	1,039
Home Visits by Tuberculosis Nurses ... ..	2,204	2,179
Wasserman Tests taken at the Dispensary ... ..	2	8
Year 1940—(Negative 2)		
X-Ray Examinations ... ..	195	146

### Financial and Other Assistance.

Necessitous cases of tuberculosis were assisted in various ways during the year :—

	1940	1939
(a) Clothing and footgear provided ... ..	18	10
(b) Extra Nourishment—Milk, Malt and Oil, etc. ...	30	44
(c) House rent paid from a special Fund during residence		
of patient in Sanatorium ... ..	11	7
(d) Bedstead and Bed Clothing—Loans ... ..	2	3
(e) Sets of Dentures provided ... ..	3	1

On the general question of house accommodation for families where a member is suffering from tuberculosis, a Joint Committee of the Health and Housing Committee has decided to give preference where possible to the tenancy of a Corporation dwelling-house.

### Residential Treatment.

There were 37 patients in residence at various Sanatoria on the 31st December, 1939, and during the year 115 other patients (61 males, 54 females) were admitted as shown in summary below :—

Institutions	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1939	Admissions			Discharged during 1940	Died	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1940
		Total	Males	Females			
High Carley .....	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital .....	9	39	39	...	25	7	16
Springfield Sanatorium .....	11	29	...	29	13	9	18
Stannington Sanatorium .....	8	13	6	7	14	...	7
Memorial Home, Norden .....	3	18	9	9	14	...	7
Shropshire Orth. Hospital .....	4	14	6	8	9	...	9
Crossley Sanatorium ...	...	2	1	1	2	...	...
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>37</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>57</b>

The results of treatment of definitely tuberculous patients discharged from Residential Institutions during 1940 are summarised below :—

#### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (61 Cases)—

Condition at time of discharge—Quiescent	...	...	...	23
Not Quiescent	...	...	...	25
Died in Institution	...	...	...	13

#### NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (13 Cases)—

Condition at time of discharge—Quiescent	...	...	...	7
Not Quiescent	...	...	...	6

### Springfield Sanatorium.

This institution, situated adjoining Springfield Park, provides accommodation for 36 female patients, one half of which is reserved for women patients residing in the area of the Lancashire County Council. In addition to 29 Rochdale patients admitted there were 31 patients admitted from the County and other Areas, making 60 in total, as against 69 the previous year.

### Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1925 (Section 62).

The former relates to persons engaged in the milk or dairy trade who are suffering from tuberculosis, while the latter confers powers for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. No occasion has arisen during the year where it has been found necessary to make use of the powers conferred by this Act and Regulation.

**(C) VENEREAL DISEASES.**

No change has taken place in the clinic arrangements for dealing with this disease. There were 493 cases (320 males and 173 females) dealt with during the year, as against 600 in 1939. The number of new cases was 226 which is much below the average for previous years.

The following summary gives the number of cases dealt with during the past three years :—

	Year	1940	1939	1938
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
1. No. of persons under treatment or observation at commencement of year ... ..		255	287	318
2. No. of persons who ceased to attend in previous years and who returned to the Centre suffering from the same infection ... ..		4	—	4
3. No. of cases who have had previous treatment...		8	7	11
4. No. of new cases ... ..		226	306	322
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total cases dealt with ... ..		493	600	655
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
5. Total attendances—For attention of Medical Officer		5,976	7,525	7,968
For irrigation, dressing, etc.		5,330	5,979	6,939
6. No. who ceased to attend—				
(a) Before completion of treatment ...		38	71	33
(b) After completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure ... ..		14	36	23
7. No. discharged after completion of treatment and final test of cure or after diagnosis as non-venereal ... ..		177	214	294

**Pathological Exams.**

The arrangements with the Broadfield Laboratory and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for pathological work has been continued. The specimens examined at the Laboratories number 594 as compared with 967 the previous year.



**TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1940,  
and previous years.**

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	LIVE BIRTHS		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Nett		Under 1 year of age		At All Ages	
		Number	Rate per 1,000 of est. population	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Live Births	Number	Rate per 1,000 of est. population
1930	90,900	1245	13.7	82	66	1254	13.8
1931	91,160	1151	12.6	76	66	1369	15.0
1932	90,550	1135	12.5	82	72	1273	14.1
1933	91,340	1044	11.4	93	89	1371	15.0
1934	94,450	1170	12.4	91	78	1376	14.6
1935	94,100	1094	11.6	93	85	1311	13.9
1936	93,250	1096	11.8	76	69	1408	15.1
1937	91,940	1093	11.9	58	53	1415	15.4
1938	91,290	1096	12.0	69	63	1271	13.9
1939	*90,300	997	11.0	55	55	1322	14.7
Average for years 1930-1939	91,928	1112	12.1	77	70	1337	14.5
1940	86,670	1072	12.4	96	89	1575	18.2

\* Estimated Population for Birth-rate. The corresponding figure for Death-rate is 89,830.

**TABLE II.**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.**  
**Year 1940.**

	All Ages	0-	1-	5-	15-	45-	65-
<b>ALL CAUSES</b> ... Males ...	<b>789</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>385</b>
... Females	<b>786</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>452</b>
1—Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
2—Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	3	...	1	...	2	...	...
3—Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4—Whooping Cough ... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
5—Diphtheria ... ..	5	...	3	2	...	...	...
6—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	51	...	...	1	28	20	2
7—Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	12	...	3	2	5	2	...
8—Syphilitic Disease ... ..	8	1	...	...	1	3	3
9—Influenza ... ..	52	...	...	...	6	24	22
10—Measles ... ..	3	1	1	1	...	...	...
11—Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
12—Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...
13—Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Œsophagus ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	2	8
Cancer of Uterus ... ..	14	...	...	...	1	7	6
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	54	...	...	...	3	18	33
15—Cancer of Breast ... ..	16	...	...	...	...	9	7
16—Cancer of all other sites ... ..	98	...	1	...	6	40	51
17—Diabetes ... ..	15	...	...	...	...	2	13
18—Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	180	...	...	...	4	51	125
19—Heart Disease ... ..	276	...	...	2	14	89	171
20—Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ... ..	118	...	...	...	...	16	102
21—Bronchitis ... ..	219	2	2	1	18	66	130
22—Pneumonia ... ..	51	9	1	1	10	10	20
23—Other Respiratory Diseases ...	14	...	...	...	1	8	5
24—Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	11	...	...	...	2	4	5
25—Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	18	16	2	...	...	...	...
26—Appendicitis ... ..	6	...	...	1	2	3	...
27—Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	40	3	...	1	5	9	22
28—Nephritis ... ..	43	...	...	...	7	19	17
29—Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30—Other Maternal Causes ... ..	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
31—Premature Birth ... ..	41	41	...	...	...	...	...
32—Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease ...	21	19	1	1	...	...	...
33—Suicide ... ..	14	...	...	...	3	6	5
34—Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	20	...	...	3	6	8	3
35—Other Violent Causes ... ..	46	2	4	5	7	6	22
36—All Other Causes ... ..	108	2	...	5	10	26	65



TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various  
Ages under one year of age—Year 1940.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH					Total Deaths under 1 year	
	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks to 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	1940	1939
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	1	...	1	...	2	...
Pneumonia ... ..	1	...	4	2	2	9	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tubercular Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	3	9	3	...	1	16	3
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	...	2	1	...	...	3	3
Congenital Debility, Malformations, etc. ... ..	15	2	1	1	...	19	20
Premature Birth ... ..	38	3	...	...	...	41	18
Suffocation ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	2	2
Other Causes ... ..	3	...	...	...	...	3	4
ALL CAUSES ... ..	61	17	9	5	4	96	55

Nett Live Births in the year :—Legitimate 1,018 ; Illegitimate 54.

Nett Deaths in the year :—Legitimate infants 89 ; Illegitimate infants 7

# REPORT

## ON THE

### MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

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**To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1940, being the Thirty-third Report on the work of the School Medical Service.

**Staff.**

The personnel of the staff remains unchanged, still consisting of the Medical Officer of Health, a whole-time and a part-time Assistant Medical Officer, two Dental Officers, three School Nurses, two Dental Attendants, and two Clerks. A part-time Ophthalmologist and a part-time Aurist are attached to the Department.

**School Premises.**

On 8th January, 1940, all elementary schools (except Heybrook and Meanwood) were opened on a normal basis.

The Nursery Schools at Brimrod and Thames Street were vacated by the A.R.P. services, as were Meanwood School and parts of Lowerplace, Norden and Halifax Road Schools. At the end of the year, A.R.P. services were in occupation of parts of Heybrook and Castlemere Schools, but not to such an extent as to interfere unduly with the normal working of the schools.

A.R.P. shelters have been erected at all schools in the Borough, with the exception of Castlemere, Redcross Street and Technical Schools. At two of these, however, work is in progress. As a result of the provision of shelter facilities, children under five are now admitted, where accommodation is available at all schools except Redcross Street. Negotiations for erection of shelters at this school are proceeding.

Arrangements have been made for a hot beverage to be available to all pupils after a prolonged stay in shelters. All surface shelter roofs have been treated with bitumastic solution for waterproofing, and the Committee are pressing the Board of Education for sanction to the electric lighting and heating of all shelters.

The "blacking-out" of schools which was not, at first, entirely satisfactory, has been improved, to allow more sunlight and air to enter school buildings during daylight hours.

## ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

### Elementary and Secondary Schools.

During 1940, the Girls' High School, the Girls' Central School, the Junior Technical School and nineteen Elementary Schools have been inspected, and at these inspections every child attending has been examined. Those due for routine inspection received the normal medical examination including vision testing, and the remainder were examined for nutrition and obvious defects (flatfoot, cleanliness, etc.) only.

### The Open-Air School.

This school has been visited at least once weekly during term-time.

## INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR OVERSEAS

### EVACUATION.

At the end of June and the beginning of July all normal inspection was abandoned for the examination of 501 children whose parents applied for their evacuation overseas. Of this total 17 forms were not completed by the parents for one reason or another, and of the remainder 238 were boys and 246 were girls. Eighty-four of these were considered by the School Medical Officer to be unsuitable for evacuation, and the remainder of four hundred to be suitable. The reasons for refusal were chiefly dental unfitness and uncleanliness of the head, together with a few cases of mental deficiency, enuresis, tuberculosis, chronic otorrhœa and organic heart disease. One boy refused medical examination.

Owing to the cancellation of the scheme only two children were eventually evacuated.

The time occupied by these inspections naturally reduced the number of routine medical inspections which it was possible to make during the year, and this number was again reduced to some extent by the fact that the School Medical Department undertook the inspection and general care of some hundreds of school children evacuated from the Channel Islands to this town during the summer.

**Total School Inspections** during the year by the Medical Officer.

The number of inspections made is shown below in comparison with the figures for 1939 :—

	1939	1940
Routine Inspections		
at Elementary Schools ... ..	3,510	2,488
at Secondary and Technical Schools ...	172	172
Special Inspections ... ..	252	66
Re-inspections ... ..	509	331
Inspections at Open-Air School ... ..	1,878	2,457
Special Inspections at Clinic ... ..	1,633	1,992
Re-inspections at Clinic ... ..	3,537	4,311
	<hr/> 11,491	<hr/> 11,817
Cases seen by Ophthalmologist ... ..	501	554

**FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.**

There have again been no findings of particular interest during the year. There is a slightly larger incidence of general untidiness, slovenliness and lack of care among that now large number of children whose parents are away from home all day. It is usual to find that, apart from cases where the parents are known to be careless and idle, the ragged and superficially or actually dirty child is probably not from a financially straitened home, but from a home where both father and mother are out at work from early morning until six or later in the evening, and where the mother has consequently neither the time nor energy to care for her children's appearance. The increasing number of school dinners supplied for payment, together with the decreased number of free dinners provided are a reliable index to the economic conditions prevailing.

Scabies has been a troublesome but so far not an overwhelming problem of the School Medical Service. It is usually a simple matter to clear a child of this condition, but unfortunately re-infections, generally from other members of the family over whom the service has no control, are very common, and can interfere considerably with a child's school attendance. A scheme is being arranged whereby a whole family can be admitted to the Isolation Hospital for a weekend and cleared of infection, but it is very difficult to arrange even this with various members of the family working long and different hours, added to which certain members of the community apparently prefer to endure a mild scabietic infection for long periods rather than submit to treatment.



The defects found in boys, and the attendances made by boys at both minor ailment and consultation clinics continues, as always, to outnumber those of the girls. The proportion brought to the consultation clinic last year was about 100 boys to every 83 girls.

The severe weather of January and February 1940, affected school attendance especially at those schools away from the centre of the town, and the attendance was the worst among senior boys who deliver newspapers before coming to school. Normally such work is completed in time for the boys to have their breakfast and be at school by nine o'clock, but the late arrival of the newspaper trains considerably interfered with this for a few weeks. Another sequel of the bad weather was that the prolonged wearing of rubber footwear produced, particularly among the less cleanly children, sluggish septic sores which showed little tendency to heal owing to the moist and warm condition inside these unventilated rubber boots.

Thirty First Aid Cabinets have been supplied to the schools during the year. These are metal cupboards containing a set of splints, dressings, bandages, eyebath, scissors, thermometer, and various medicaments together with a small anti-gas outfit which it is thought should meet any likely emergency. A further dozen smaller first aid boxes are to be supplied to the small schools where the numbers of children in attendance did not seem to warrant the provision of the more expensive cupboards.

### **Uncleanliness.**

The nurses made 12,432 inspections for cleanliness only during 1940 and found 88.9% clean and 11.1% unclean. The condition of the children's heads is at present deteriorating and the figures for 1941 will probably show a considerable increase in dirty conditions. This seems partly due to a general lowering of standards usual in war time, i.e., the idea that " nits don't matter," but to a larger extent due to the fact that in so many cases there is no parent at home during the day, either because both are out at work, or because the father is serving with the Forces, and the mother out at work. After long hours in the mill, what time and energy are left are devoted to preparing meals and to essential housework, none being left for repairing clothing or for that strict attention to cleanliness which is essential if children are to look well cared for. Many of the children play about the streets from about 7-30 a.m. until school starts, again for most of the time between twelve and two, and again from four or four-thirty until the bedtime hour which is so often late. Any normal healthy child left to his own resources for these long hours will be ragged, ill-shod, dirty, and have various cuts and abrasions which are likely to go septic.

### Minor Ailment Clinic.

There were 9,725 attendances at this clinic during the year including 134 cases of impetigo, 416 eye and ear defects, and 1,317 small injuries. The individual cases were 3,736.

### THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

As was expected, there has been a further reduction in the number of cases referred to Dr. Cammock, and in the operations performed which were as follows :—

	1940	1939
Tonsillectomy ... ..	109	181
Mastoidectomy ... ..	25	18
Submucous Resections ... ..	7	4
Other Operations ... ..	45	62
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	186	265
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### Tuberculosis.

There are 95 notified cases of tuberculosis among children of school age. Of these 59 are pulmonary and 36 non-pulmonary.

Thirty-nine are at certified special schools.

Forty-eight are attending ordinary elementary schools.

Three are at other institutions.

Five are at no school or institution.

### External Eye Disease.

Fifty-four cases of blepharitis and conjunctivitis were treated at the minor ailment clinic during 1940.

### Defective Vision.

The ophthalmologist held 49 clinics during the past year, and examined 554 children including 29 pre-school children referred from the infant welfare clinics.

### DENTAL REPORT.

The following Annual Dental Report is submitted by Mr. A. C. Walker, L.D.S., and Mr. H. P. Gledsdale, L.D.S., Dental Officers.

During the year 59 school departments have been visited once, and 22 of these have been visited twice, for routine dental inspection, the total number inspected being 8,952. Of these, 4,992 were referred for treatment, the number actually treated being 3,691 including "Specials." Fillings numbered 3,512 and extractions 4,157.

As in the previous year it has been our policy to maintain the School Dental Service as normal as war conditions will permit, although, in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Education, Circular 1523 certain modifications have occurred in our routine school Dental Service. Thus, all children still receive dental inspection at the schools, but this is now used mainly in making a selection of children for treatment. The selection is based largely on those whose parents have already shown an appreciation of conservative treatment. In these cases every effort is made to give thorough dental treatment, in the hope that the children will continue treatment throughout school life and after leaving school. In order that the risk of failure may be avoided as much as possible, and also that the dental officer's time may be used to the greatest advantage, conservative treatment, by means of fillings, is confined mainly to the permanent teeth, thus 3,398 fillings have been completed in permanent teeth, compared with 114 fillings in temporary teeth. All existing facilities for the extraction of teeth are maintained.

Special dental work was carried out during the summer for children medically examined for Overseas evacuation. Of these 51 received complete treatment.

An interesting feature has been the dental treatment made available for the girls of the Guernsey Intermediate School, who have been evacuated to this area. In the first instance they were treated as "specials," but have since been incorporated in our routine school Dental Service. The girls obviously appreciate the work done for them, and show a complete willingness to co-operate. On the whole the dental standard of these girls is not high, and shows marked evidence of lack of school dental service in the Island.

During the latter part of the year, a dental clinic in charge of Mr. Gledsdale, was established at Balderstone Hall. The amenities and facilities thus provided are now available to all schools in this area.

### **Work of the School Nurses.**

The following is a summary of the school nurses' work apart from clerical work :—

Dressings, etc., at morning clinics	...	...	...	...	9,725
Cleanliness Inspections	...	...	...	...	12,432
Inspections with Medical Officer—					
at schools	...	...	...	...	3,057
at clinic	...	...	...	...	2,118
Cases seen with Ophthalmic Surgeon	...	...	...	...	554
Inspections at Open-Air School	...	...	...	...	2,435
Home visits	...	...	...	...	457
					<hr/>
					30,778
					<hr/>

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases were notified during 1940 :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ac. Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/>
							1,052
							<hr/>

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Twenty-five children only have been immunised against diphtheria during the year.

#### The Day Open-Air School.

At the beginning of 1940 only 50 children were in attendance at the school, this being the maximum allowed until shelter accommodation was completed. The number was then gradually increased to 120, the normal number attending. As the weather was very severe, it was not considered advisable to admit all the children on the waiting list at once, and at first only the older and less frail of the new cases were sent for.

Only sixty-seven children were discharged during 1940, and another child, a boy with heart disease, died. The cases discharged had been admitted for the following defects :—



	Boys.	Girls.
Malnutrition ... ..	11	5
Pre- and Post-Tuberculosis ... ..	3	2
Heart Disease ... ..	1	1
Nervous Conditions ... ..	3	6
Non-tubercular Affections of the Chest ... ..	5	5
Orthopædic Defects ... ..	1	—
Anæmia and Debility ... ..	12	12
? Epilepsy for Observation ... ..	—	1
	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 32
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### REPORT ON NURSERY SCHOOLS,.

Owing to the unavoidable delay in erecting adequate air-raid shelters, three Nursery Schools were unable to take more than twelve children at a time from January till the beginning of October.

Brimrod Nursery School was fortunate in having a shelter and the usual number was admitted. As the accommodation at the Nursery Schools was so limited it was endeavoured to take in only those most needing care and attention. The Health Visitors are in the habit of recommending children whom they think would benefit from Nursery School life, and on occasion the request for admission has been direct from the Medical Officer.

The waiting lists at all schools have greatly increased, and now the mothers so appreciate the training and care given at the Nursery Schools that the children's names are entered in early infancy.

The children for the most part come willingly to their medical examination, and evince a lively curiosity in the proceeding. At three schools a change in the medical examination has been made in that the mother is asked to be present. This has meant an increase in the time taken in the examination, and until we modified the procedure, there was, in a few cases an exhibition of tears and tantrums owing to the mother's presence. Now the children are not examined until they have been in the school some weeks, and have settled down, and moreover they are undressed and waiting before the arrival of the Medical Officer.

The Medical Officer, Headmistress and Health Visitors felt that the general advice given at the interview to the mother as regards clothing, clean heads, diet, etc., should result in a closer co-operation and be a means of some degree of health propaganda.

Each school was visited regularly once a month during the sessions by the Medical Officer and a careful survey of the children was made. Special cases are sent to the various Specialist Services. The Health Visitor continued to visit their schools once a week to give advice on minor complaints.

A few children were found to have vermin in their heads and these were excluded until cleaned up.

There was an increase in the incidence of Rhinitis, no doubt owing to the children spending occasional hours in damp dark shelters.

The diet sheets were submitted to the Medical Officer at intervals and were found to be varied sufficiently and to contain a proper balance of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats, with adequate vitamin contents. The children were given some raw fruit or vegetable—apple or orange, or carrot—after meals, thus ensuring a full flow of saliva to maintain the clean state of the teeth.

General hygienic principles were observed at the schools—cleaning of teeth each morning ; washing of hands before meals ; wearing of clean overalls ; the correct use of lavatories, etc.

All mothers were given information about diphtheria immunisation, and the majority consented to the injections. Indeed it is now an accepted procedure. As many children are now being immunised in the Maternity and Child Welfare Department there will inevitably be a falling off in the numbers in the nursery schools.

A number of children with speech defects were sent to the Speech Clinic where they were interviewed with their mothers. Although they were too young to be accepted for the routine speech training classes, Miss Pollitt expressed a desire to see the children and the mothers as she felt often a little early advice prevented the mother making the condition worse, and the mother's anxiety was allayed if she felt that at some future time, she could get speech training for her child. Occasionally, too, it was found that the mother was herself suffering from a speech defect, and the child was actually imitating her.

Three children were markedly backward mentally. These children improved considerably at the schools with attention.

The mother's clubs are held once a fortnight and there the mothers meet under the ægis of the Head Mistress to have a friendly evening mending overalls, chatting about their children or listening to an occasional health talk, or some other matter concerning the welfare of young children. A community pride is fostered and there is usually a noticeable improvement in the state of cleanliness

of the child after a month or two at the Nursery School. One school permits the mothers to bath their children at school where the facilities are unobtainable in the homes.

As experience accumulates, additional steps are being taken to link up the Nursery School history with the child's future in the schools. It is now felt that the foundations have been more than fully laid. All that is now required is attendance complete and uninterrupted by war in order to obtain the full value of the Nursery School provision in this town.

## SPEECH CLINIC.

REPORT BY MISS POLLITT, SPEECH THERAPIST.

**During the Year Ending December 31st, 1940 :—**

Number of children	having received regular treatment	...	...	82
"	" discharged	...	...	22
"	" suspended for time being	...	...	4
"	" having left school or district before treatment was completed. In all cases improvement was considerable. Two cases are now attending the evening clinic	...	...	9
"	" attending at present time	...	...	47
				<hr/>
				82
				<hr/>

### Type of Defects Treated.

Stammerers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Speech Defects	{	Lateral sigmatism	...	...	...	...	10	45
		Dyslalia	...	...	...	...	21	
		Idioglossia	...	...	...	...	3	
		Cleft Palate	...	...	...	...	2	
		Aphasic condition	...	...	...	...	1	
		Rhinolalia Clausa	...	...	...	...	2	
		Lateral sigmatism and Rhinolalia Clausa	...	...	...	...	2	
		Nasal sigmatism	...	...	...	...	1	
		? Diagnosis	...	...	...	...	2	
		Lisp	...	...	...	...	...	
Stammer plus Speech Defect	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	
								—
								82

**Schools.**

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Number of children from High Schools ...	3	—	3
„ „ „ Central Schools ...	5	2	7
„ „ „ Church Schools ...	20	6	26
„ „ „ Elementary Schools	32	6	38
„ „ „ Open-Air School ...	7	1	8
	<u>67</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>82</u>

Number of parents refusing to allow children to attend for preliminary interview ... ..	4
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Number of cases referred during the year by Medical Officers ...	32
„ „ „ „ Head Teachers ...	8
	<u>40</u>

These cases are in addition to those originally listed during Autumn, 1939. Some of these cases have received or are receiving treatment ; others have been placed on the waiting list.

**Interviews.**

135 interviews have been given to parents during the year. All cases referred have a preliminary interview, prior to regular attendance, at which the parent is asked to be present. In addition, the parent of every child receiving treatment is asked to attend for interview periodically.

In certain cases, particularly where the Nursery or Infant School child is concerned, advice has been given to the parent at the preliminary interview, in order that the incipient defect may be corrected in the home—thus, probably, making regular attendance at a later date unnecessary.

A number of parents have attended individually to watch the work of a Stammerer's Group.

When the Speech Defective child receives individual treatment, the parent is encouraged to attend with the child. Parents of such children have attended regularly, particularly during the early stages of treatment.

**Medical Inspections.**

Medical Inspections have taken place every three to four months. Every child is seen by the School Medical Officer as soon after admittance as possible, and also immediately prior to discharge. In certain cases the child is examined from time to time during attendance.



In addition to the Medical Inspections at the Speech Clinic, children have been referred to the Medical Clinic in order that arrangements may be made for them to receive treatment from the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist.

One child has been referred to the Manchester Child Guidance Clinic.

### **School Visits.**

Seventeen schools have been visited during the year. Limited time makes visits to all schools impossible, but the Head Teachers of all children attending regularly, are asked periodically to make a written report on the condition and progress of the child's speech as noticed in school.

### **Visitors.**

During the year the Speech Clinic has been visited on three different occasions by persons interested in Speech Therapy. These visitors came from Liverpool, Heywood and Oldham.

### **Stammering.**

Stammering is a symptom of general nervous instability, and the present period of nervous strain, brought about by war conditions is detrimental to the progress of every stammerer. In the stammerer, neuro-muscular tension prevents the easy flow of normal speech, and it is to be expected that this tension will be increased by present conditions.

The need for rest (early bed-time, and habitual periods for the practice of relaxation during the day) has been stressed to parents both during interviews and in a letter, which the parent of every stammerer has received.

### **Adult Speech Clinic.**

14 persons attended for interview in connection with the formation of an evening Speech Clinic for adults. 12 persons (ten male, two female) all stammerers, commenced regular attendance during October. The adults attend once per week. It is hoped that attendance will be able to continue during the summer months. The age of the adults vary considerably (from 14½ years to 48 years).

In future, prior to regular attendance any adult may be asked to obtain a certificate from his/her doctor, stating whether or not there are medical reasons contra-indicating Speech Therapy.

The work of the adult Speech Clinic would be greatly enhanced if it were possible, where necessary, to refer cases to a medical Psychiatrist, in order that specialised psychological treatment could be given conjointly.

### **The Classes for Retarded Children.**

The classes at Heybrook and St. Peter's School continue their good work of providing special tuition for retarded children.

### **Educable Mental Defectives.**

Three feeble-minded children are at residential special schools, six at the Royal Albert Institutions, one at a Nursery School, and two others at other institutions. Six attend no school or institution, and 46 attend the elementary schools.

### **Ineducable Mental Defectives.**

Three girls were notified to the Mental Deficiency Committee during 1940, including one notified "voluntarily."

## **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

Free dinners provided during 1940	...	...	...	111,895
Individual children supplied	...	...	...	4,909
Free bottles of milk supplied	...	...	...	152,653
Paid dinners supplied	...	...	...	84,871
Individual children	...	...	...	5,374
Individual children who bought school milk	...	...	...	61,464

It will be seen that the number of individual free dinners provided is now below that of dinners provided for payment. In 1938 the number of meals provided free was about seven times the number of meals provided for payment.

### **Periodical Weighing of Children.**

Weighing machines have been purchased and it is proposed to weigh the children attending certain representative schools at regular intervals of six months. It will not be possible to include many schools in this scheme because the necessary time cannot be spared by the nursing and clerical staff.

### **The Orthopædic Clinic.**

During 1940, 104 new cases of orthopædic defects were referred to Dr. Bateman for diagnosis and treatment at the Cripples Union Clinic. One other child was referred but the parents refused to allow the child to go.

The cases are classified as follows :—

Kyphosis	...	...	...	11
Scoliosis	...	...	...	7
Lordosis	...	...	...	1
Flatfoot	...	...	...	23
Hammer toes	...	...	...	9
Other postural defects			...	10
Other foot troubles	...	...		34
Injuries	...	...	...	2
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1
Epiphysitis	...	...	...	1
Plantar warts		...	...	16
Miscellaneous cases	...	...		20
				<hr/>
				135
Refusal	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				136
				<hr/>

At every inspection of the Girls' High School for some years past it has been usual to find numbers of girls with postural defects and deformity of the feet in varying degrees of severity. At the 1937 inspection 30 such cases were found and referred for treatment. The next inspection was in September, 1938, when only seven cases were found, and at the latest visit in January, 1940, the number had fallen to two. There can be no doubt that this rapid reduction in the numbers of girls requiring orthopædic treatment is largely due to the fact that since 1937 there has been a full-time physical training instructress on the school staff.

#### **In-Patient Treatment of Debility.**

Apart from the orthopædic cases during the year, Dr. Bateman has examined and admitted to the Memorial Home for treatment, fifteen children suffering from severe debility. All these children benefited very considerably from their stay at the Home.

#### **Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.**

The department is once again grateful to the N.S.P.C.C., The St. Anne's Convalescent Home and the Moorland Home, all of whom have been of great assistance.

#### **Clog Fund.**

The Head Teachers' Clog Fund has provided 153 new pairs of clogs for poor children during 1940.

### Employment of Children and Young Persons.

The number of children taking up part-time employment has again increased during the year and 185 children were medically examined prior to being registered for employment. The number registered in 1939 was 146.

### Cost of Medical Inspection.

The costs of this department from April 1st, 1939, to March 31st, 1940, were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries ... ..	2591	4	10
Printing, Stationery and Postage ... ..	101	10	1
Drugs, Materials, Apparatus, Spectacles ... ..	310	7	11
Hospitals, Nursing Associations, etc. ... ..	749	4	11
Travelling ... ..	24	8	1
Rent ... ..	402	5	5
Upkeep of Premises ... ..	—		
Fuel, Light and Cleaning ... ..	26	1	1
Conveyance of children ... ..	77	12	3
	4282	14	7
Recovered from Parents ... ..	256	0	11

In view of the fact that Rochdale is a Neutral Area, the department has not been faced with any of the major problems of evacuation or reception of children. Nevertheless, it has been, particularly at the beginning, a year of difficult adjustments in many spheres.

I am indebted to the Medical and Nursing Staff for the manner in which the work has been carried out under handicaps. In particular I wish to thank Dr. Mills for the preparation of this report and the Director of Education for his assistance in its preparation.

May I also acknowledge the encouragement and help of the Schools Medical Services Sectional Committee.

*John Lums.*

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
ROCHDALE.

Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.

19/7/41.



TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections, 1st January to 31st December, 1940.

## A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	467
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,571
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560
Total									2,598
Number of other Routine Inspections...									62
									2,660

## B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 6,303

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year  
in the routine age-groups up to 31st August, 1940.

Age Groups	Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly subnormal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	467	33	7.1	412	88.2	22	4.6	0	0.0
Second Age- group ...	1571	85	5.4	1331	84.7	152	9.7	3	0.1
Third Age-group	560	60	10.7	450	80.3	49	8.8	1	0.2
Other Routine Inspections ...	62	12	19.4	48	77.4	2	3.2	0	0.0
TOTAL ...	2660	190	10.7	2241	82.7	225	6.5	4	0.1

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1940.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table V.).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme : 9,725.

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

Defect or Disease	Number of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Errors of Refractions including Squint ... ..	554	—	554
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	554	—	554

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	472
(B) Otherwise ... ..	—

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme ... ..	405
(B) Otherwise ... ..	5

GROUP III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects receiving Operative Treatment :—

Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital ... ..	186
By Private Practitioner, or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme ... ..	1
Total Number Treated ... ..	187

**TABLE IV.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.**

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist—

Routine Age Groups	5.....	807
	6.....	836
	7.....	973
	8.....	1048
	9.....	964
	10.....	1054
	11.....	847
	12.....	1086
	13.....	1009
	14.....	328

Grand Total ..... 8952

(b) Specials ... .. 1014

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ... .. 9966

(2) Number found to require treatment ... .. 4992

(3) Number actually treated ... .. 3691

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 4431

(5) Half-days devoted to—	Inspection	..	83				
	Treatment	..	750	Total	..	..	833

(6) Fillings—	Permanent teeth	..	..	3398			
	Temporary teeth	..	..	114	Total	..	.. 3512

(7) Extractions—	Permanent teeth	..	..	534			
	Temporary teeth	..	..	3623	Total	..	.. 4157

(8) Administrations of General anaesthetics for extractions .. .. —

(9) Other operations	..	Permanent teeth	1019				
		Temporary teeth	176	Total	..	..	1195

**TABLE V.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.**

- (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses .. .. 3
- (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses .. .. 12432
- (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean .. .. 1387
- (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority .. .. 1
- (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—
- |   |    |    |    |    |     |
|---|----|----|----|----|-----|
| (a) Under the Education Act, 1921       | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |
| (b) Under the School Attendance Byelaws | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil |

TABLE VI.—Blind and Deaf Children.

	At a Public Elementary School	At an Institution other than a Special School	At no School or Institution	Total not receiving suitable Education
Blind Children...	—	—	—	—
Deaf Children ...	—	—	—	—

**Mentally Defective Children.**

Total Number of Children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1940,  
by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority :—

Two : Plus One " Voluntary."









